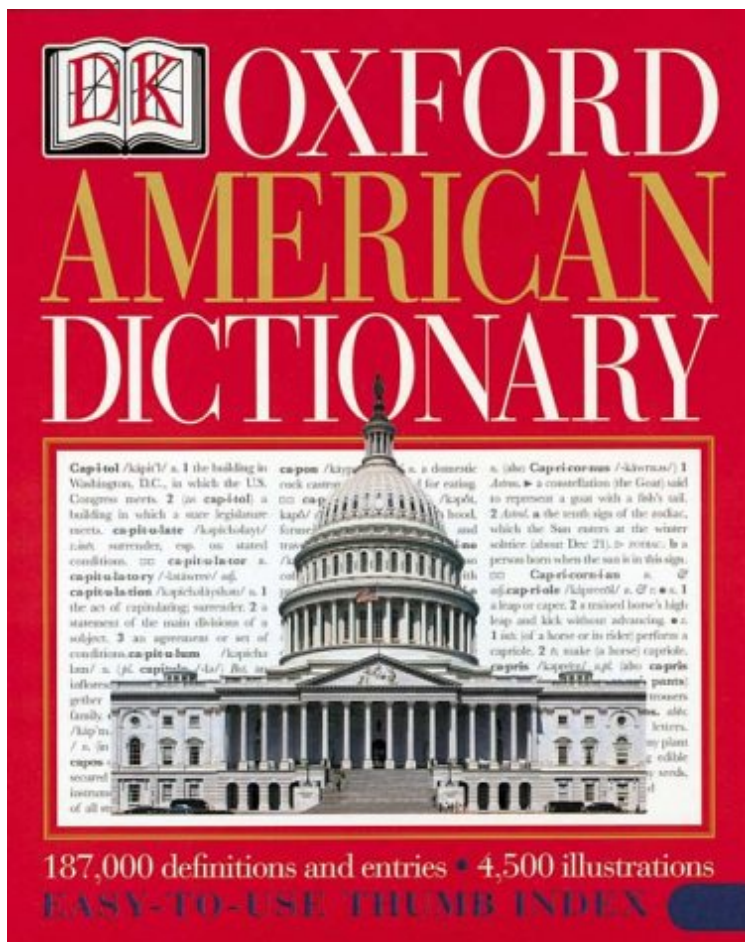


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From Library Journal
The lexical content of this handsome dictionary derives from the Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus: American Edition (LJ 1/97), one of many single-volume abridgments of the massive Oxford English Dictionary published recently in its second edition. Containing some 75,000 headwords plus inflected forms, derivatives, and common idiomatic expressions, the new work offers clear, concise definitions, pertinent usage labels and notes, and phrases showing how certain words are used in context. The vocabulary includes some recent coinages such as "carjacking" (but not "mosh pit" or "moshing") and new meanings of established terms (the computer sense of "bus"). But the real story of this dictionary is DK's outstanding illustrations, which are both informative and eye-catching. In all, the dictionary intersperses about 5000 full-color photos, diagrams, and paintings, 600 of which are "feature panels"--large, detailed renderings of an object (such as "castle") or phenomenon ("rock cycle") that identify specialized terminology and greatly enhance the user's understanding of the subject. These illustrations will appeal especially to younger users, and although the dictionary is principally for adults, it is being promoted for use by children as young as nine or ten. One caveat for those who would introduce the dictionary to young children: it does include the standard four-letter vulgarities, all appropriately labeled "coarse slang."?Ken Kister, author of "Kister's Best Dictionaries," Tampa, FL
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